

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 23685 161744Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04  
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01  
/100 W

-----055294 161942Z /44

R 161735Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7160  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 23685

USEEC

E. O. 11652:N/A  
TAGS: GATT, EEC, FR  
SUBJECT: TEXTILES/IMPORT LICENSES

REF: A. STATE 190397; B. BRUSSELS 09920; C. PARIS  
21859

1. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL C, SINCE JUNE 23 GOF HAS IN  
EFFECT BLOCKED IMPORTS OF CERTAIN TEXTILE ITEMS  
(INCLUDING TEE SHIRTS) REGARDLESS OF ORIGIN BY REFUSING  
TO ISSUE IMPORT LICENSES. IN RECENT MEETING WITH  
EMBOFFS, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR  
TEXTILE STATED THAT GOF WOULD BEGIN ISSUING LICENSES  
AS SOON AS EC COUNCIL DECISION WAS PUBLISHED IN EC  
JOURNAL OFFICIEL.

2. TODAY WE CONTACTED MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY OFFICIAL  
WHO SAID EC COUNCIL REGULATION (SEE REFTEL B) WAS  
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PUBLISHED AUGUST 13 AND THAT AS OF TODAY, AUGUST 16,  
FRENCH ADMINISTRATION WOULD BEGIN ISSUING LICENSES.  
SOURCE CONFIRMED (SEE REFTEL B PARA 2) THAT IMPORT  
LICENSES MUST BE OBTAINED BY ALL IMPORTORS BUT THAT  
LICENSES FOR IMPORTS FROM COUNTRIES NOT SUBJECT TO  
QUOTA RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY.

3. COMMENT: A. MOI OFFICIALS READILY CHARACTERIZED GOF UNILATERAL ACTION AS "BLOCAGE" DESIGNED TO ALLEVIATE DISTRESS OF FRENCH TEXTILE INDUSTRY FACED WITH INCREASINGLY STIFF FOREIGN COMPETITION AND TO PRESSURE COMMISSION INTO TAKING SOME PALLIATIVE ACTION AT EEC LEVEL. WHILE EC COUNCIL GAVE FRENCH LESS THAN HALF OF LOAF THEY DESIRED, FRENCH BELIEVE THEY HAVE GOTTEN POINT ACROSS TO COMMISSION: NEGOTIATE SATISFACTORY BILATERALS BEFORE DECEMBER EXPIRATION OF MFA OR GOF WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY RECALCITRANT ROLE REGARDING MFA RENEWAL. MOI OFFICIALS ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT COMMISSION NEGOTIATORS WILL COME BACK WITH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WHICH MEET FRENCH CRITERIA, PARTICULARLY REQUIREMENTS THAT IMPORT GROWTH BE LIMITED TO EXPECTED INCREASE IN DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION AND THAT ROOM BE LEFT FOR NEW SUPPLIERS, E.G. PHILIPPINES, AT THE EXPENSE OF ESTABLISHED SUPPLIERS, E.G. HONG KONG.

B. REGARDING CURRENT STATUS OF IMPORTS, MOI OFFICIAL SAID GOF WILL DO ALL NECESSARY TO ASSURE THAT LICENSES ARE ISSUED EXPEDITIOUSLY. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF BACKLOG AND REDUCED PERSONNEL RESULTING FROM AUGUST VACATION EXODUS, IT IS LIKELY THAT IMPORTERS WILL EXPERIENCE FRUSTRATING DELAYS. IF DEPARTMENT IS AWARE OF ANY PARTICULAR U.S. EXPORTERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHO ARE HAVING DIFFICULTIES PLEASE PUT THEM IN CONTACT WITH THE EMBASSY AND WE WILL DO ALL POSSIBLE TO ASSIST.  
HARTMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXTILES, IMPORT LICENSES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PARIS23685  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770295-0828  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 2ad4f759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 190397, 77 BRUSSELS 9920  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1588631  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TEXTILES/IMPORT LICENSES  
**TAGS:** ETRD, FR, GATT, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009